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PRIDE

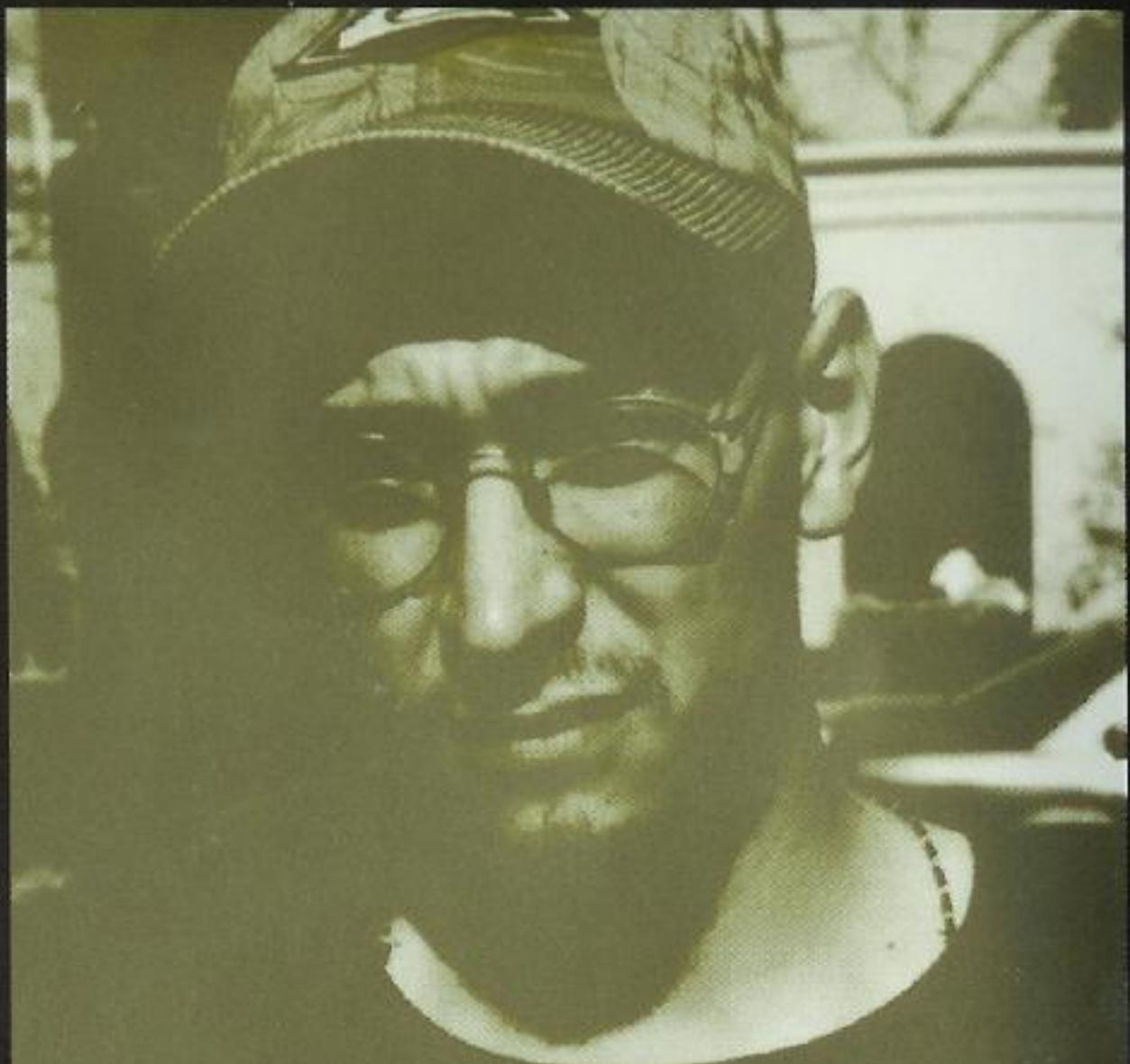
Premiere Issue

Special Dedication

Abiel Mejia

February 24, 1969 - October
25, 1997

Everyone in The Houston
scene and beyond has suf-
fered a great loss this year.
Abiel's music and art influ-
enced the minds of many. The
greater loss, however, is for
those who never had the
opportunity to hear him play
or the pleasure of knowing
him. He was involved in the
scene in Houston from the
beginning, always striving to
bring people together - all
crews, all musical tastes,
always. His legacy lives on
as we follow in his tradition
and keep the vibe alive.



Abiel Mejia



for booking info contact: 281.546.9745

<http://www.ti.com/purrinlion>

MURDA FOR THREE

- Audio 3
- BMC
- DVS1
- Jetboy
- Joel Alamo
- Lord Vishnu
- MC Gremlin
- MC Swift
- Price
- Reakt
- Roll DJ
- Vitamin A
- Zakaos

remixers:

- Coppatop
- DVS1
- Jetboy

* Editor's note

THA PRIDE PREMIERE ISSUE IS DEDICATED TO A57
(ABIEL MEJIA 1969-1997)

Big-ups to everyone that's been waiting for the release of the zine. It's taken longer than anticipated but I'm sure you will enjoy the first issue. It is jam packed with the real jungle bizness for the Junglist Massive world wide. Tha Purrin Lion proudly presents Tha Pride, Houston's premiere jungle magazine - designed to give everyone involved in the stateside drum and bass scene a common ground. Hopefully, it will be a new beginning for everyone who wants to see this scene grow and for everyone who wants to influence the direction that growth may take. Yes, Jungle will blow up but when it does is it going to be real? Will the people who have been in it for years be overlooked by some greedy commercial salesman? There are many true junglists in the scene worldwide. They have been keepin it real for years by producing music, dj'ing, promoting, and runnin' record labels. These are the people who deserve to grow with drum and bass and this zine will introduce you to many of them. After you have seen what the record industry has done to hip-hop, do you think drum and bass is too far away for this same kind of marketing? Let us learn from the U.K. scene and start our own record labels and be in control of our marketing. This is the only true way to keep it real. This zine will keep everyone in touch with new releases, up and coming artists and the scenes of different cities + much more.

Obviously I haven't gotten in touch with everyone so write or call as Tha Pride Rollz on.....

bmc_thapride@hotmail.com
(713)866-6243



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"THA PRIDE" THE BEST OF LUCK IN '98**

contact: MCPrime@aol.com

UPFRONT

Straight from London town this section will keep you up to date on what's happening with record labels and promotions. Eastside has dropped a new sister label FUZE consecrating on the darker side of drum and bass. With the artist like A-sides, Embee, and Vagrant kicking off the first three releases. Pushing Jump-up to the next level FRESH KUTT'S next two releases go like this! Delikutt Beats/What Does it all Mean and Boogie - both by Prisoners of Technology. Brockie and Mr. Time bring you UNDILUTED, a new label coming out from the kool fm crew. With the first release being Represents v.i.p. you know it's going to be major. Dj Ron's new label PICCASSO comes on strong with a nice break beat work out by Moose and Fresh. With the third release on Ruffneck Tings newest label Breakbeat Culture gets deep with Sonic Experiments ep. FORMATION warms up for 98 with LP's scheduled to drop by Mental Power & DJ SS. But first John B's lp on NEW IDENTITY will be available at the end of November. SPECIAL K and D CRUZE get ready to drop their own label in Feb/Mar 98. In Domestic news Rawkus next two releases are Pish-Posh's Corrupt Cops and Crack rock and R Notorious J's tracks Shaun Bear/Impulse due out in Jan 98. Also, T.O.V. will be releasing an album stateside on Rawkus T.O.V. USA with remixes of Rawkus independent hip-hop tracks by T.O.V. artist. Yeah, this one's for the bass head crew. Hold tight for the V-camp coming to the states to a city near you featuring Bryan G, Jumping Jack Frost, Die, and special Guests. I'm out BMC

Tha Pride Release Party
aka "Tha Party"
November 1, 1997
Waxx Museum, Downtown Htown

Bringing together jungle and hip hop dj's, this party had a little s umptin' sumptin' for everyone. Hip hop played outside while graffiti artists NME, Color, and Bezerk tagged the fence surrounding the area. Inside the bass was so extreme the ceiling was falling on us as we danced. Jungle was literally bringing the house down. With a turn out of about 350, the party was definitely a success. Outside Dj Slim and Kola from Seedless were throwing down some serious trip hop. Also, Kool DJ Cee and Witnes from the Reprogram crew provided some nice scratching and tricks for the crowd to vibe on. Sista Stroke represented unexpectedly with some nice drum and bass. Keep a watch out for her. The main room Drum and Bass was rixin all night long with Texas best jungle dj's. Purrin Lion's Lord Vishnu started off the night with nice rollin set and then turned it over to DJ UNT from Herb Life. Protoculture's DJ Dizzy dropped some serious bass to get everyone hype for the rest of the night. Then Dj Reakt dropped the most upfront vinyl, playing dub plates on Hardware, True Playaz, and Smoker's inc - keeping the vibe extra dark. Then BMC played a set for tha steppa'z, droppin "Warhead" and "Gold" rmx. Roll DJ played a 96 jump up set with MC Gremlin chattin on the mic. Next up Audio 3 came with some 95 ragga bizness, throwing down athems like "Ganja Man" and "Fire". Due to the serious bass inside, the cops were called and we were told to turn the sound down, which killed the vibe. But there was still more. DVS1 tore out some old 93-94 tunes (dedicated to A57). And Price started up the vibe again, so the cop returned to shut the party down. The weather was perfect for an indoor/outdoor party, which contributed to a great vibe. Everyone came together to support Houston talent, and the excitement about the upcoming zine was obvious. There was a great outpouring from people I had never met saying that they wanted to be more involved in the scene. It is encouraging to see the Houston scene grow like this.

Editor's Note: Big ups to all of the people who expressed an interest in contributing to the zine. We hope to hear from you soon. To all the massive who could not attend, you can contact Tha Pride at bmc_thapride@hotmail.com and submit scene reports, top tens, party reviews, etc. This is your chance to tell junglists worldwide what's happenin' in your corner of the globe. Keep it real.



Check Out Tha Spots

THA SPOTZ THAT BE HITTING'

Thursday

Absolute Jungle

This is a weekly event every Thursday night at the Waxx Museum, brought to you by two of H-town's finest crews — Purrin Lion and Herb Life. The resident djs will be D.J UNT, Joe B, BMC and Roll DJ. There will also be special guests from other crews and special appearances from DJ's touching down from London town. You know it's going to be large. Call the info line for more info. \$5 located at 1601 Leeland @Crawford Downtown Houston. 713-655-WAXX

Friday

- Every other Friday, Mary Janes hosts a Jungle night with 2 dj's from Tha Purrin Lion and 2 Protoculture dj's rippin shit up. It's more on the relaxed tip with drink specials and patio. \$3 at the door. Call 869-jane for the line up.
- 91.7 Mkultra 10p.m. to 1a.m. Friday nites. Hosted by Sundeep playing everything from experimental to the hardest tekno with special guests mostly consisting of jungle dj's. Runnin' 2 years strong in Houston!

ONE OFF'S

REPRESENT

Brought to you by Seedless productions in Austin, TX. Texas's newest jungle crew brings you some club shakin neck breakin beatz with Austin's favs such as Jack Ruby, Dj Kola, Twist I and Bass Agent. Also Purrin Lion's dj's DVSI, Audio 3, Vitamin A, and MC Swift. 308 E 3rd \$10. at the door. 512-374-4762

XPERIENCE

Brought to you by Gotta Move Productionz transforming the now defunct Power Tools in the underground tunnels of Houston. Bringing down Sniper from Eastern Black recs. Toronto and Vinyl Syndicate. BMC Roll Dj Zakaos, and DJ SK will keep the vibe up with MC Gremlin providing lyrical flava. Also, Mark Lewis L.A.(Sony), Steve Loria L.A.(ICU) on 3 turntables and DNA NYC (Global Energy) will be givin you your house needs. With local starz Maidai, Jerry-D, Fusion and Bizz. \$15 at the door. Call 713-867-9028.

BASS ODYSSEY

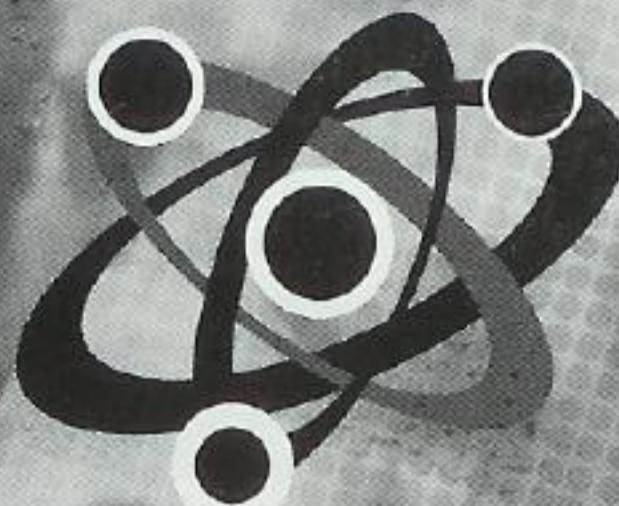
Sonic Boom and Yoyi Fly presents Bass Odyssey to be hosted at the Waxx Museum on Nov 29th. Smile record's DB & DARA will be touching down in H-town for the second time. This party will also feature Houston's local favorite DJ's: Zakaos, UNT, BMC, Audio 3, DJ SK, and Marcus. You know it will be runnin. Also, Mr Kleen from Satellite Recs, Turbo, Chris Anderson and Andre Morant will be providing the hardest in Tekno. \$13 with canned good or \$15 without. For more information call 713.866.8899 or 713.603.7973.

Beyond The Emerald City Nov 29th 97 Chicago

This party is hosted by a collective of Chicago promoters (Pure, Vibeonauts and Positive Entity) and has a star studded line up. Live acts include Barda, Demitry, Silver, Avant, and Mark Verbos. Also, Dave Angel, Felix Da Housecat, Ilana Ospina, and DJ Bone will be mixin it up on the wheels of steel. With Tha Purrin Lion's first Chicago appearance by Roll DJ, Lord Vishnu, and DVSI on the mic. Make sure you check out DJ Heather from Chicago and other Midwest favorites. Call for more info 312.409.pure, 773.604.1644 or 773.509.5083.

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SCI-FUNKORAMA The Review by Lord Vishnu
At this point, with Sat. afternoon, it's about to be 3:30pm late Aug. and I just landed in Oklahoma City. Collecting nights getting longer, my things I start to wonder if this place is ready for jungle on the main floor, and if there was we of the Bay Area take much of a rave scene at all. Walking off the plane I see this tall skinny fellow with this child-a moment to look back: ish grin. It had to be Krispy, or how we call him down in Texas, Krunchy. This man here is one what an amazing summer of the main junglist from the south to be on the look out for in the near future. Being well-for jungle music in Northern comed by this person and his very funny companion, we head to the hotel so I could put California, and what an ambi-tious start the fall has gotten everything away and get sorted for the night. On the way to the hotel I was briefed on tent STRICTLY drum n bass parties in the non-xxx laws that were inforced in this state and other inomalitys that made me off to. At this point, there are cringe. Anyway I bet you're wondering when I am going to talk about the party? I right around 10 established, consist- will be getting to that in the next paragraph. Night fell on this now famous city with Sucka Free, and the sound is making its arrive and I along with Krispy and company had the honors of picking him up. presence felt, within the hiphop, reggae After meeting him at the gate and talking typical DJ talk on the way back to dancehall, and of course ELECTRONICA the hotel. We grabbed our tools of the trade and headed towards the venue. scenes. The headliners (Peshay, SS, Dj Rap, I was very surprised to find out that the place holding the party that night Bukem, Ed Rush, Doc Scott, J Majik, etc.) was a government building. When we were heading towards the front door, have been playing at Funky Tekno Tribe's jungle there was your usual barge of glowstick people and candycoated kids. weekly called ULTRA at Club VSF on 11th and But once past the security, I saw this massive space with a nice sound Folsom. Although lately bugged by flakiness system and array of lights. The second room was the room were most (Trouble on Vinyl dudes and Boymerang failed to of the real action was going on. This room played host to the sounds show in recent weeks), ULTRA has brought the big of Hip Hop and Jungle. The break dancers where running the floor names to San Francisco, and been rewarded with good for the most part, and I for one am not fond of just the guys on crowds and a sweaty dancefloor. Phunkateck is carrying the dance floor. I believe that everyone should have room to the club scene at this point (as opposed to the under- get their groove on, I'm not saying that I don't like breaking ground). Jason Mouse, Noel, Abstract, UFO, Juju, Spell, and or that the breakers shouldn't do their thing. All I'm saying young lioness Sage have a great weekly party at the Cat's Alley is make room and time for everyone and you won't have to Bar and Grill on Folsom near 8th. SCUBA Skwad creates a deal with me turning off the music to get you guys to superfly lounging and light dancing atmosphere in the hiphop clear the floor. Krispy started off the jungle for the room, a perfect contrast for the dark, hot, motion-ful dance floor night in the room with his jump-up pure party style. on the jungle side of the Cat's Alley moon. Abstract and lone wolf DJ He was giving it to the crowd with no remorse, and Kayar also spin in the Drum n Bassment at Nikita, Friday nights at they were having every minute of it. I was up to 1015 Folsom, which is perhaps SF's hottest Friday night multi-sound bat after Krispy, but right in the middle of his dance club. B.A.S.S. Kru, made up of Flux, Rinse, Stareyes, and the MC last track, the power cut out for a hot minute, Phluid are keeping the underground ethic strong, as guest DJ's for other causing the vibe to die right before my turn crews parties, but most notoriously for their AUDIO IMPACT, which this to turn it out. The power came back on and month will feature Stakka, L Double, Skynet, and MC DBO General. Audio most of the people had left to the main Impact is always well-thought out, bursting with talent, and quite thrilling just area, leaving me to play to almost no for the simple fact that it's an underground party, not an easy score. To get to one, and when the room became Audio Impact, you have to be true, and the vibe thus created is a pure junglist packed again, the vibe had long been buzz. Jungle Love, which was a monthly underground during the summer has found dead and I was just ready to hand a spot and a night. Sundays at Club 181 on Eddy St. @ Taylor, Jungle Love features res- it over to who ever. The night idents Madame Butterfly, Honey B, and Gamekat and Billy Diamond, both Englishmen ended for me about 4:00 am, now living in the Berkeley/Oakland area. Although less than a month old, this party looks Krispy and Diesel and a couple set to really take off, with aforementioned Stakka and Skynet headlining a bill with Los of other people, along with Angelean R.A.W. tagteaming with Oakland's DJ Sifu, and also Kid Frostbite from Drop Beat myself decided to call it a Records, scheduled for the end of this month. Sen-C Media's live side, Cosmic Vibe Massive, has night. We headed back to been throwing a more fusion-oriented series of parties, mixing all kinds of reggae music with the hotel and ended the good hip hop and old style ragga jungle. Cosmic Vibe Massive's consistent venue, Il Pirata on 16th evening with break-off Potrero has also recently hosted the way underground Green Tea party. These Green Tea folks fast at Denny's. are very creative, not only in the way they hype their parties, but also in the mixtures of drum & bass Thank you Damion sounds they bring. And representing your crew isn't the only way SF is doing it. There are offshoot crew for getting the mixup bills at bi-weeklies like Step2K and monthlies like Terrorist Society/Buggin Out's 11th day of the check. month soirees. And being part of a crew isn't the only way, as DJ's like Sutekh, Bre-Ad, Re-Ach and others have proven, playing at weekly bar-parties, especially Static at Liquid on 16th at South Van Ness, and the new Kitchen Sink do-up at Blakes on Telegraph Ave in Berkeley. If you're going to be in town, check <http://www.langan.net/basskru> for a good listing of local jungle events, and actually, check <http://www.hyper-real.org/raves/sf> for just shitloads of information about what kind of party is available for you to rock. MAX



Is there an Austin Jungle Scene? Slowly but surely, it is starting to come about. There is no doubt jungle has kicked it in H-Town for quite some time, and it has started to make its way out into the rest of the Lone Star state. We've seen the rise of the jungle room (always the second smaller room at parties) and the decline of the Ambient Chill Out Room, much like the rest of the party scene. It always seems the Seedless Crew here in Austin will be your guides for Drum and Bass in those second rooms. Much respect to Matt, Colin, Bass Agent, and the rest of the Seedless guys for working hard to get things kicked off here. The last real Jungle event in this town was Stratalounge on Sunday nights at the sixth street bar Bob Popular. This started off just as another club night with a variety of music, but after seeing the crowd response to jungle, they changed the format to all Drum and Bass. The late Sunday nites apparently took their toll on Stratalounge and Bob Popular has since returned to its regular format. When you check the record bins at Alien and Turntables here in Austin, it is apparent that Jungle is selling and there is an audience that is listening. Dieselboy was here on October 3rd and packed the Red Room, no small feat considering this place is almost always dead. If Dieselboy can pack a dead club here, a jungle stronghold in the party scene can't be too far behind considering the immense pool of DJ talent we have in Texas in the Drum and Bass scene. November 15th, Seedless Crew returns in proper style with an all night Jungle Mash Up at the Voodoo Lounge here in Austin. Scheduled for the decks on this evening are DJ Kola (Seedless), Jack Ruby (Seedless), Bass Agent (Seedless), Audio 3 (Purrin Lion), and yours truly Twist-1 (Texas Hardcorps). The Voodoo Lounge is located on the corner of 3rd and Trinity on the edge of downtown.

Twist-1 : Texas Hardcorps www.hardcorps.org

Zen Fest '97 August 31

1k County Fairgrounds-Central Florida (between Orlando & Tampa)
Zen Fest definitely boasted an impressive line-up. The "Moving Shadow Drum & Bass Showcase" highlighted Goldie, Rob Playford, EZ Rollerz (live act), Raymond Roker (URB magazine), along with many local talents. The headliners of the entire event were Josh Wink & King Britt, Sasha & John Digweed, Rabbit in the Moon, and Keoki. The venue was a racetrack on a large fairground. The main stage was located in the bleachers on one side, leaving the entire track for a dance floor. There was a large hangar like building for a second area. Three large tents contained Drum & Bass, Experimental Sounds, and local DJ's. The surrounding area was populated with numerous vendors selling anything you could possibly think of. Of course, I spent the entire evening in the Drum & Bass tent. After the 11-hour drive, I was informed that Goldie had not arrived. My disappointment was compounded when I found out soon thereafter that the metalheadz tour date in New Orleans had been cancelled. As a consolation, however, Rob Playford played two separate sets in Goldie's place. As expected, Playford dropped the cutting edge Metalheadz sound with every selection. The highlight of his set, in my opinion, was hearing the KRS-1/Goldie collaboration. During Playford's second set, Richard Marley (whose reggae band had opened the night on the main stage, and yes, he is Bob's son) tore the stage up with his MCing skills. Seeing the EZ Rollerz perform live was definitely an experience. They were the ultimate late night act with their soothing melodies, rolling beats, and live vocals. Everyone was amazed. I was also impressed with the jump-up sounds of Raymond Roker. He kept it tight. (You can check out another review in the pages of URB magazine.) The night opened with the sounds of Kyng Nova and the Element, who played some dark tracks. They were followed by more locals, Muggles, Jeffee, and the Entity (out of Baltimore). Finishing the night were AK-1200 and Kene-B. I'm very glad that I made this trip, since attending an event with 12,000 kids isn't something I get the chance to do every weekend. There was a serious presence of Florida State Troopers, in addition to the cast of hundreds hired as security, but that was the only down side of the entire trip. The vibe was excellent, the people nice, and the music superb. Knuggs

METALHEADZ @ BLUE NOTE

Upon arriving at Blue Note, we under went a thorough security search. They made me empty all my pockets, and I had forgotten I had stashed \$800 in my back pocket. As we entered the club, we were attacked by the dark sound Metalheadz is known for. The bar/lounge was already getting full early in the night, so we made our way down to the main floor to discover the soundz of dj Bailey. He kept us entertained with tight mixing and upfront tunes, including my favorite System rmx. By this time the spot was jam packed and the sound system was pumped to tha max. Next up Dj Randall introed with Brown Paper Bag rmx and the place went mad. As his set moved along the crowd moved with him no matter how dark or hard he got. When the amens kicked in the crowd got even more hyped. He continued to rinse out phot tunes for the remainder of his set. There were TV's set up with cool visuals to keep the head nodders entertained and to inform you what dj was playing. The mc kept the vibe rollin as Doc Scott stepped up to spin. I was in and out through his set but the crowd never let up! Whenever you're in London town be sure to peep it. It was well worth the five pounds. Reakt

FULL CYCLE PARTY @ THE END

When we stepped up in tha place the club was full, and there was still a cue wrapped around the venue. It was well worth it once we were in because the sound system was the bomb. Even though I had ear plugs, the shit was still loud. Luckily we walked in at the end of Photek's set. Up stepped the one like Bill Riley representin the true Full Cycle style by droppin smooth tracks one after another and keeping the crowd locked in. Next on the decks was Suv - droppin many V classics such as Roni Size's "It's Jazzy" and Scorpio's "Li Li", along with the newest shit. The crowd went ape shit when he played "Trouble" and "Warhead", instant RELOAD! Jumpin Jack Frost stepped up to rinse out the night. He played all styles of drum and bass - from dark to jazzy - never letting you down. The end of the night came too soon. The crowd didn't clear out until the music was turned off and the house lights came up. This was definitely an experience I will never forget. Reakt

Rise Above review:

Saturday, October 18, at the Cloud Kid's Rise Above party, the mad jungle bomb hit Oklahoma City hard. Making their first Oklahoma appearance at Star Seven Diskotek were San Francisco B.A.S.S. Kru's own DJ Flux and MC Phluid. After local Dj's Diverse and Krispe set up the jungle vibes with their hip-hop and hardstep styles, Flux and Phluid set it off with a vibe thick as ever. Flux played a little more on the dark/tech side of drum and bass, with MC Phluid freestyling nicely over the instrumentals. Instead of the MC taking away from the music, Phluid had a flow that complimented the music nicely and added an extra element to the vibe as a whole. Highlight of the night was when Flux broke into John B, a nice jazzy lick of a tune. A definite crowd of hardcore junglists were in attendance with lighters in tow. Oklahoma City is finally opening its mind to the drum and bass with the help of local dj's Krispe and Diverse. Be on the lookout for Jungle Sunday night's at club EBM's in Dell City, Okla. Toy :)

RECORD REVIEWS

Genoforce "Techjazz" dubplate (RENAGADE HARDWARE) (Reakt)
This is my personal favorite at the moment. A collaboration between Future Forces and Genotype, you'll think this one's going to put you to sleep with its keys and guitar chords, but when the bassline kicks in it's time to get lively. This track's full on energy. Not your typical jazz rolla.

Genoforce "unknown" dubplate (RENAGADE HARDWARE) (Reakt)

On a darker tip than the previous mentioned Tech jazz, this is a militant steppa with a bass line which sounds like a WWII fighter plane going down. Intro has a nice steppy beat and strings that set you up nice and easy for the ripping bass and pounding beatz that'll have you goose steppin in no time. It's one that grows on you every time. Also, if you liked Shadowboxing rmx this one's right up your alley.

Unknown test press (NOIR) (BMC)

I have no idea who this is but somewhere on the lines of the V camp. With the jazzy live bass sound blowin up this one keeps it going! Crazy string intro until the acoustic bass drops and tha place moves. This will make any floor move. Buy on sight.

Dj Red "Dynamics" dubplate (TROUBLE ON VINYL) (Reakt)

No less than what you have come to expect from the TOV camp. This track rolls in with sparse bouncy beatz that gradually build until the Dynamics sample echoes and the bass kicks in. The beatz continue to thump as the bassline morphs and a second shock wave of bass is added after the break.

Scorpio "Trouble/Division One" (V-RECORDINGS) (BMC)

"Trouble" starts off with some chopped up beatz and samples. Even used a scratch technique on the sample to get it started. Then the full sample "wash away those troubles down the drain" drops and then the build up! Getting you ready for the battiest bass you ever heard in your life. "Division One" has some of the same feel with a baby-screaming daddy! But the bass hits you deep below the ground. Massive

Dj Krust Warhead/Check it out (V-RECORDINGS)

(Reakt)
"Warhead" (steppa mix) begins with steppy beatz and is eventually joined in by a bassline which builds the track up with the use of some very effective drum rollz until.....RELOAD!! Well, that's what happened every time I heard it in London. You know those V basslines are tearin! Don't sleep on dis one. "Check it Out" is definitely one of the dopest tracks around. It rolls out in full force with a ruff b-bwoy bassline and sample yelling check it out. Well fuck checking it out just by the damn

record on sight.

Ant Miles "Surreal/Make it Happen" (LIFTIN' SPIRITS #18) (BMC)

What can you not say about this one! Production is top quality as usual, runnin' straight from the Ram stables. "Surreal" slides in with some nice smooth strings & then the bass drops giving you some stand up bass slammed with some minimal acid lines. REWIND! The flip, "Make it Happen", filters its way in, droppin to some serious b-line bizzness.

Fate "Deep Inside/Random" (EAST SIDE RECORDS #17) (BMC)

This is the 3rd collaboration from A-sides and Magistrate and they deliver as always. "Deep Inside" brings in the steppa beats from start to finish and hits you with the lowest bass line straight to your stomach. "Random" rides more on the dark tip with eerie strings and chopped up beatz. Then the acid bass line comes roaring through the tune.

Starsky meets the Junglites "Mobb Rules Again/Outlawed" (PIMP #5) (BMC)

"Outlawed" is my favorite on this one. First, it gives you what you want with Daytona 500 samples by GhostFace, then it cuts it up, hittin you with the steppa beatz and the phattest bass you ever heard. The flip is more on the rolla tip, but it's huge because of the bass. (It's a remix of Pimp #2.) This one is for the jump up massive!

L Double "Saturday Flex/97" (FLEX LABELLO BLANCO#29) (BMC)

This one is huge with "Saturday Flex" just killin ya with the acidlines. Full of energy, this will make any dance floor jump to the top! "97" gives you more of the same but with a heavier bass. What else can I say?

United Colors of Drum and Bass (FORMATION) (BMC)

Since 1995, Formation has been releasing a series of records all named a different color. This year they finally released the most anticipated album of the year, the color series. And no one was let down. "Black" is the only original featured on this compilation. Remixes include "Gold" by Mental Power, "White" by Technical Itch, "Silver" by SS and "Yellow" by Tekniq. You can't go wrong with this one.

Aphrodite "Listen to the Rhythm/Rinsing Quince" (APHRODITE RECZ) (BMC)

"Listen to the Rhythm" has the usual intro with the cut up samples and building flava's. What I like about this one is when the bass kick and the acid lines take off. The flip is more of the same but with a phat string provided by the Pharcyde.

Dillinja/Lemon D "Acid Track/One Out of Many" (PAIN RECS. #2) (BMC)

This one is major! Coming from 2 of London's top producers, on their new label Pain! Dillinja comes on strong with crazy acid basslines. Being one of the biggest

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resonance = information



tunes in its time Acid Track crosses over into every ones liking. Lemon D uses some crazy production on this one. Bringing jazz to a new platform.

Majistrate featuring Agent K "Under Attack/Gravity" (JUICE) (BMC)

Gravity is the one that pulled me down with its full rollin buildin style breaking out into some crazy jump up style amens. One for the head strong. "Under Attack" is a wicked party track because the bass just throws you around making you want more.

Special K "The Shot/Only One" (PROPER TALENT #16) (BMC)

"The Shot" hits you deep down with bad ass style bass. The vocal comes from Ice Cube. "Only One" is the flip with more of an SS style bassline. Both of these tunes are blowin up. Release date Oct.

Concept 2 - "No Mistake/Unlock the Secrets" (RAM RECS #19) (BMC)

Right with the bells intro you can feel the vibe on this one. "No Mistake" slaps you with the bass of Genetics and keeps on steppin. Flowing in usual Ram style, it brings you up to the build up! The flip is more on the dark tip with evil strings and killer bass. Watch out for the production. It will unlock your secrets.

Coldcut: More Beats + Pieces (Ninja Tune)

This teaser 12" from the new Coldcut LP sits in my collection because it sports a sweet T.Power remix that takes your brain on a wikked funhouse dark journey. The breaks are steppy, straight forward and filtered in very subtle yet effective ways, making this cut work for a dancefloor or your bedroom. The flip side features live turntable mixes from Q-Bert, Kid Koala, Ollie Teeba, and DJ Food....interesting listening to say the least.

EZ Rollers: Retro Remix/Quantum State (Audio Couture)

Guardians of D'alliance take to the task of remixing this smoother track from EZ Rollers and roll out a mellow groover that drops the familiar sample about ghetto music and pioneers walking alone. I think the flip side "Quantum State" wins the prize on this one though, proving that EZ Rollers have started taking minimal beat structures to another level entirely. The vibe on this track is decidedly darker and more mental, but it thankfully avoids the droning yawns that have been all too plentiful this year. The workout on the breaks is stellar, as they tweak the beats through all manner filters and effects without ever losing a solid dancefloor groove.

Intense: West Side Blues/Eastern Promise (Diverse Recordings)

The mighty Intense were churning out wikked darker tracks long ago, but time wears away the stones it seems, as they have taken a turn for the deeper, trancier, and more beautiful side of things. West Side Blues is jazzy and gorgeous, one of those records you put on right before that girl you've been eyeing for weeks walks up to ring your doorbell. The flip side is a very trancy filtered string affair which would work in a late night intelligent set (which seems to be my forte these days) and the production on both tracks is crystal clear and utterly immaculate. As producers, I think Intense are underrated, and this record shows them flexing their formidable studio skills in a classy and well executed fashion.

Bliss and Tumble: Lethal but Steady (Optical Reshape)

Optical has a certain gift for consistency, and this "reshape" is quite another feather in his hat. Minimal breaks groove on top of a deep repetitive bassline that works its way into your skull. Interspersed are steady strings, subtle bleeps, and harp noises that roll through the breakdown. The mix is certainly dark but in a way that sidesteps any cliche and even manages to have a bit of a hook. Listen to the end and you'll hear the sample...."changed my life forever"

DJ Surreal: Bass Baby/Seascape (Hard Leaders)

TDK got behind the engineers desk and rolled out two amazing bass lines for this excellent Hard Leaders release. Both tracks are solid and very deep yet ruff enough to keep the floor moving, this record is a prime example of jungle that is made for you mind yet doesn't ignore the rest of your body that wants to get out there and shake its thing. You should have this in your crate, no doubt about it.

Makia: Northstar (Precision)

This one sided 12" from Germany stands out as ruff and aggressive, sure to get the crowd going for it. The track builds from deep drones into rougher breaks before breaking down into a sample of "I've turned my mind to steel" and then kicking you in the shins with a fat distorted bass line and harsh in your face breaks. I only wish there was a B-side.

IN THA MIX (Mix Tape Reviews)

Lord Vishnu/And there was one

Here we go again with the funky intro. This one comes from H-town's original hip-hop jungle dee jay, representing to the fullest with many styles of break beat. It even has the phat 4-track intro with crazee scratches and tight mixes that never let you down. Though Vishnu has been playing the dark stuff lately, he mixes it up using all styles of drum and bass on this one. Featuring songs such as John B's "Jazz Session", Zinc's "Attack", and Roni Size's mix of "New Forms", he takes you through drum and bass in the nine seven! For more info contact (713) 706-6083.

Starchild/I don't do weddings

Nice packaging with the fold out cover by Michelle, tha junglette. This tape has a lot to offer. Using tha special mixing technique, Starchild takes you through drum and bass in tha 96 with anthems such as Ruffest Gunark (dj Rap), Goes Around (Desired State) and Devastating (dj Red). You even get a few scratches by Starchild. For more info call (412)862-3520.

BMC/Tha Pride Rollz on

Houston, TX representz on this one brought to you by one of h-town's finest. BMC brings you the hardest in dance floor funk on one side and the craziest acid bass lines on the other. This tape features tunes like "Saturday Nite Flex" on Labello blanco, "Trouble" on V-recs. and "The Shot" on Proper Talent and many more. Two styles of drum and bass anybody can relate to. This will make you move. For more info contact (713)866-6243.

Dizzy/Truth

Protoculture's finest comes on dark with the illist techstep you can find. With smooth mixes and powerful tunes this ones for the headstrong. Reaching deep into the mechanical sounds and distorted bass lines, as Dizzy delivers keeping it in true techsteppin fashion. With tracks like Decoder's "Element's" on Second Movement, and Source Direct tunes. Contact (281)265-4907 for more info

Mkultra/technique

Mkultra takes you far beyond any typical drum and bass tape and gets down and dirty. Using the technique of good tunes and slippery mixes, his journey goes from Decoder's greatest to experimental drum and bass. Never letting you down from the pounding bass to the stuttering drums Austin represents to the fullest. Contact 512-703-8901 or mkulta@hardcorps.org.

J. Davis - Demo Review

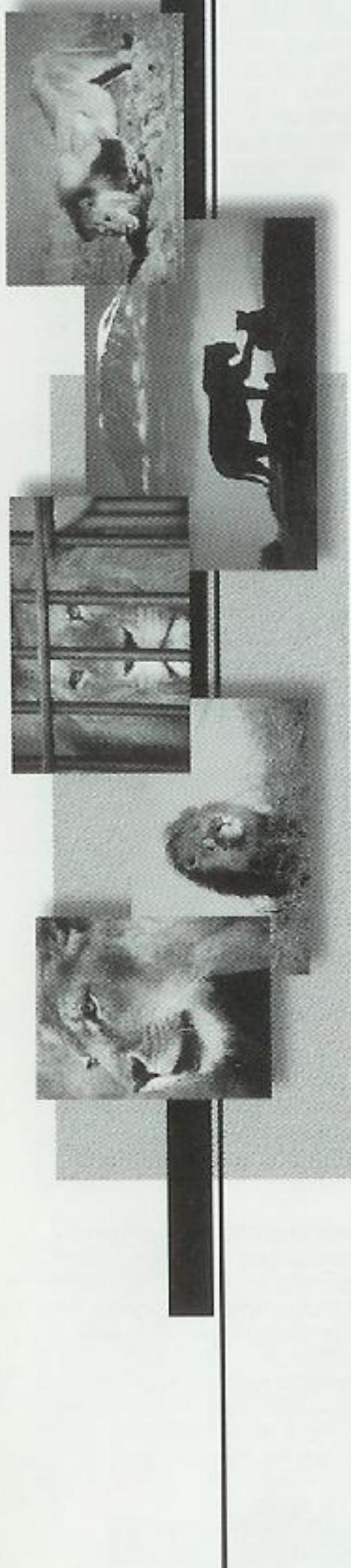
J. Davis sends us five tracks on a nice quality cassette, four of which are drum and bass and one which is a downtempo acid funk track. All four of the drum and bass tracks are on the smoother tip and the production is cleaner than the underwear your mom bought you just yesterday. These tracks would be at home on any number of UK labels and this demo is a testament to the wellspring of talent that is just waiting to burst out of the US jungle scene. The arrangements are tight and the breaks are as crisp as Corn Flakes before you pour the milk. The four drum and bass tracks strike a nice balance between smooth jazz textures and aggressive cut up breaks while the slow breaks affair features an infectious acid line and a nice laid back stoney groove. In short, a very strong demo; J. Davis is definitely a producer to watch.

Contact: Cosmic Flux Music

2261 Market Street Ste 615

San Francisco, CA 94114

415.585.4236 listen@cosmicflux.com



Tha Purrin Lion is a group of people set up to push drum and bass to the fullest. Making connections all over the jungle globe, Tha Purrin Lion has grown to a new level. It started out with DVSI doing all the work himself (yet with much help from Mello & Wisc for Respect) and evolved into a group of dj's known as the Soundflex Crew. Texas hadn't seen anything like it before — a group of dj's who play and support one another increasing tha junglist massive in Texas. Though it hasn't been easy from day one the work is finally paying off. In 4/95 Tha Purrin Lion brought you Respect which is exactly what they wanted. The summer of '95, Tha Purrin Lion teamed up with Matrix Crew to do side rooms at parties like Phuture, Liquid, and Area 51. After throwing their own party Larja; one of the first parties with lasers and proper sound, it became clear that Houston wasn't ready for an all jungle event. So DVSI decided not to throw any more parties and began the FORCE fm show with Lord Vishnu and crew. Alongside Herb Life, Purrin Lion provided outdoor sound at Uprising. The summer of '95 brought Bliss, an intense weekly night at Power Tools, with many Purrin Lion dj's playing such as DVSI, Lord Vishnu, Price, Roll DJ, and Zakoas. Oct. 95 DVSI, Lord Vishnu, BMC, and Reakt went to an event in Orlando, a Subbase party where the likes of Andy C, Marvelous Cain, Ash, and Rudeboy Monty came down to do their ting. The party was runnin' and a few of the dj's did drops for the FORCE fm show. After Orlando they came back to Houston with a new style as jungle was changing from the ruff ragga sound to jump up. So Tha Purrin Lion told ya "This is how it should be done". At the beginning of '96, the crew mostly centered around the FORCE fm where many dj's pumped out drum and bass over Houston's airwaves such as Roll DJ, Price, BMC, Reakt, Zakoas, and Vitamin A to name a few. Then keepin in touch with DJ Ash from Kool FM, they decided it was time for another party. Back to BassX, one of H-town's phattest jungle parties, Ash and Rudeboy Monty came down to tear up a boxing arena. The vibe was extreme and Houston was being educated by true bad boys of jungle. Then the crew took over Texas with dj's being booked all over such as Dallas, Austin, and Houston. After all, they were finally getting





respect as a crew and a soundflex. So then they teamed up with Hocus Pocus crew and threw one of the biggest raves in Houston called Enchanted Kingdom with such talents as DJ SS, DJ Ash, Phantom 45 and Purrin Lion's finest. The sound blew out the techno room with all the massive bubblin' and representin'. Also, Big Wcs and DVS dropped their first original plates. With the success of the jungle room at Enchanted Kingdom, the crew felt it was a good time for another party, Versus. Labor Day '96 they rented out Club SOME for a phat jungle party where each dj tag teamed. Then in Oct '96, Tha Purrin Lion decided to bring the Formation tour through with SS and badgirl DJ Rap. Even though the turnout wasn't great, the vibe was maxxin' and everyone there left with da headringin' from tha sound system. Then as winter came along they threw some renegade parties, which led up to the Still Diggin' parties. Using a different clothing logo each week they brought you D&B, CKbeat, Frenzi and others. Inside the back room of Still Diggin' (a downtown record store) Houston's underground witnessed some crazy drum and bass for only 5 bones a night. To kick off 1997, Tha Purrin Lion ripped up Dallas at a three day New Year's Eve party. Next Tha Purrin Lion decided it was time to take things even more seriously. They began to make more tunes and more connections in London and in the states. They brought a few more dj's into the scene and new recruit Joel Alamo from Dallas. Jetboy came back with a vengeance with his master plan of making tunes. The radio show progressed towards dub plates and dats being played nearly every week. The crew threw

Pressure Easter weekend '97. The turn out was good, and the vibe was runnin'. Once again all the dj's started getting major booking all over. For Mardi Gras DVSI, Lord Vishnu, Zakoas, Roll DJ, BMC, and Reakt brought jungle sounds to New Orleans for a phat party. Lord Vishnu traveled to Oklahoma to play alongside Diesel Boy, Reakt, BMC, and Vitamin A played at Cyberkiss in San Antonio. DVSI, Price, and Roll DJ took One Small Step in Austin with seedless productions. Zakoas played in Toronto for a super phat party while Price and Jetboy held down Austin. Teamed up with Matrix crew once again Purrin Lion took you Beyond. With the whole crew representin they tore up the jungle arena with massive sounds. With MC's Gremlin and Swift keeping the vibe extra hype Purrin lion could not be reckoned with. End of summer '97 Purrin Lion teamed up with Protoculture to do the jungle room for Scooby-doo. Located on the balcony of an old theater, the room was vibrating from the peeps jumping and da bass bumping. This one definitely got H-town ready for Versus 2 which blew the roof off club Some. Special treat for da massive T.C. Islam (Koncrete-Jungle, NY) grabbed the mic to get the party hype. So when you get the chance you better not miss them!

BIG TINGS GO ON TRUST ME!

For more info on upcoming Purrin Lion events dial 713.866.6243

WITH HER NEWEST RELEASE "HOMEBOYZ" ON RUFFNECK TING DJ DAZEE IS TRULY REPRESENTIN' BRISTOL.

DJ DAZEE is a name you are about to see blowin' down boundaries in drum and bass. She has been around for years recording under the name Substance with Mark and John on their label Ruffneck ting. In the early 90's she was just an art student toting her bag of records around, hoping for a chance to spin. As her skills progressed, she decided to pursue producing. Before Homeboyz rmx she never wanted to release a solo because she was never completely satisfied with a tune. She has appeared on Radio One spinning some of the freshest dubplates around. Knowledge, a Bristol based zine, recruited her as an exclusive record reviewer. Though her tunes may have a jump up vibe to them, she'll mix it up on decks playing anything to get the crowd movin'. Just getting off the "Gifts from the Gods" tour, Dazee jumped right back into the studio. This is where I find her. Enjoy the sounds of Dazee.

How did the label Ruffneck ting start?

DAZEE: It started as one of the original drum and bass events in Bristol! Then it evolved into a label.

Who is Substance?

DAZEE: Mark myself and John. John has also started his new label Colour Stone.

As a dj what do you look for in a tune?

DAZEE: It's got to have a really good groove. It's got to make you dance.

What got you interested in producing?

DAZEE: You just want to contribute. You know, you're getting everyone else's records and every now and then you think I might have done that a little bit different. So you go and try it. Then you're on the producing tip.

What do you think about the scene right now in London?

DAZEE: It's really shaping up. It's gotten a lot more to offer. I think people were disillusioned when it went all dark and scary again, but now it's getting really FUNKED up!

What is the advantage of cutting a dub plate?

DAZEE: The advantage of cutting plates is so you can test it out...on a big system and if there are any little adjustments, a way to make it a touch better, then you do it.

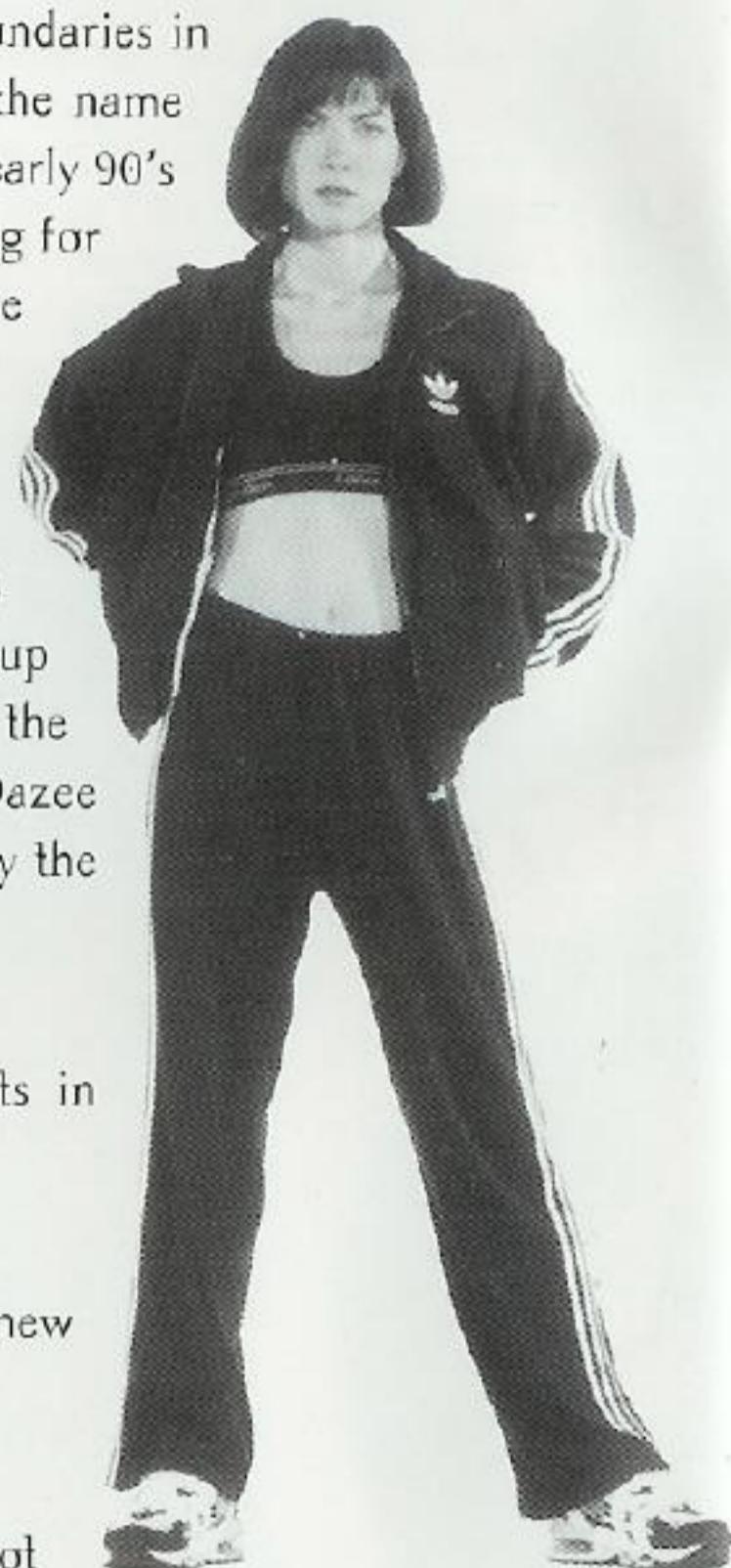
Have you ever played anywhere outside of the UK?

DAZEE: Jakes and I went to Atlanta. Had a really good time. The promoters were really nice and were doing good things for the scene there.

Have you heard anything out of the states?

DAZEE: Yeah, I mean Kingsize is doing loads of wicked stuff, but I haven't heard very much. Yeah, send in tapes, producers in America! I haven't been exposed to much out there, really.

What producers do you rate?



DAZEE: Krust, Roni, Andy C (you could never go wrong with him), Decoder. All of it. Rap, she does wicked stuff. Hype, Aphrodite.

Any Thing we should watch out for?

DAZEE: Yeah there is a double pack from Substance at the end of the year. It will have four tracks and it will be runnin'.

Any last shout outs?

DAZEE: Micheala, 5 Times Music crew, Mark, John, Jack, Knowledge, and Dimesty productions in Atlanta.



5X MUSIC / DAZEE / TIC / DECODER

DECODER / TECHNICAL ITCH

For those who don't know by now, Decoder is one of the ruffist drum and bass production team in Bristol. Spitting out sounds only for the headstrong, they have worked for many labels such as Moving Shadow, Back to Basics, Second Movement, Trouble on Vinyl and Ruffneck Ting to name a few. They have recorded under aliases such as TIC, Orca, Technical Itch, and PMA.

Together Mark and Darren have come up with their own sound and by incorporating deep wobbly bass with the ruffist amens. When asked about deejaying, their reply was that they can hold their own. They spin together mostly as a tag team with x amounts of dub-plates.

"Most of the material is original and unavailable, making for an interesting and often unique dj set." Which you may be able to see since they are going on tour with Peshay to promote his new label Elementz. Decoder has engineered for many of the other artists on their own labels Tech Itch and Elementz as well. Other non drum and bass artists they have remixed for include Eat Static, The Egg, Groove Corp., and DJ Shadow. Besides all of this they still find time to write record reviews for Knowledge, a Bristol based magazine. Future projects include a debut album on Moving Shadow to be released in 1988.

5X
MUSIC



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DECODER: DECODED EP
out on November 3rd

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No One Knows

Sonic Experiments EP
Bionx / Sonic

Secret Methods Vol. I
Domain / Raw Data



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Method One (Synthetics, Philly)

1. Atlantiq/"Perceptions" dub
2. Dj Crystl/"Mind Games"/Looking Good
3. Intense/"Eastern Promise"/Diversc
4. Omni trio/"Twin Town Karoke"/Moving Shadow
5. Phd& Mc Conrad/"Presence"/Ascendant Grooves
6. Voyager/"Hypersleep"/R&S
7. Dj Addiction/"Senses"/Looking Good
8. Ez Rollers/"?"/Moving Shadow
9. ?/Dee Jay recs # 29
10. Method One/"Elements"/dub

Dj Casper (ECP, Boston/Strictly Jungle, Chicago)

1. KMC/"Untitled"/Dub
2. Blame?"J-walkin"/720
3. Creative Source #15
4. In Deep/"Skankin"/Urban Flavour
5. Odyssey/"Artificial Life"/720
6. Twisted/"Elements"/Urban Flavour
7. Intense/"Westside Blues"/Diverse
8. Tayla/"Dimensions"/Nexus
9. Voyager/"Hypersleep"/R&S
10. Mastermind/"Summer Fresh"/Moving Shadow

Special K (Proper Talent)

1. Special K/ "Only One"/Proper Talent dub
2. D'Cruze/"Drum"/ True Playaz Dub
3. Zinc/Stretched/ True Playaz dub
4. Swift/Hi-tech/Charge dub
5. DJ Red/untitled/TOV dub
6. Krust/Warhead/V-Recs]
7. Special K/Pressure Roll RMX/Proper Talent dub]
8. Andy C/Terraforms/Ram rec's
9. Future Forces/Untitled/Hardware dub
10. Swift/New Rolla/Charge dub

Sniper (Vinyl Syndicate) Tronto

1. Sniper/"Dub-Plate Pressure" rmx/Vinyl Syndicate dub
2. Krust/"Warhead"/V-Recs
3. Swift/"Hi-teq"/Charge recs
4. Storm Shadow/"Omerta"/Vinyl Syndicate
5. Dj Die /"Footstep"/Dope Dragon
6. Bill Riley/"Consider This"/Protocol
7. Mystical Influence/"The Game" rmx
8. Ed Rush & Optical/"Funkster"/V-Recs.
9. Slip/"Unexpected"/Vinyl Syndicate
10. 3 Way/"Come on"/Dope Dragon

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**DJ Red (Trouble on Vinyl)**

1. DJ Red/"Kinetic"/TOV dubplate
2. DJ Kane/"System" (Optical & Fierce Remix)/RH dubplate
3. Shogun/"Together" (John B. remix)/RH dubplate
4. DJ Red/"Dynamics"/TOV dubplate
5. DJ Hype/"Untitled"/True Playaz dubplate
6. Swift/"The One"/Charge
7. Future Forces/"Dead by Dawn VIP"/RH dubplate
8. Undercover Agent/"Untitled"/Juice dubplate
9. Optical & Fierce/"Funkshun"/?
10. Various Artists/"Code of the Streets"/TOV LP

BMC (Tha Pride)

1. Roni Size/"Brown Paper Bag" (full vocal mix)/Talking Loud
2. Special K/"Sound Scape"/TOV test press
3. L Double/"Saturday Flex"/Labello Blanco
4. Scorpia/"Trouble"/V Records test press
5. Ant Miles/"Surreal"/Liftin Spirits
6. Unknown/"Never Had a Gun"/Sinc dubplate
7. Sonic Experiments EP/Breakbeat Culture
8. Undercover Agent/"Hypnosis"(remix)/Juice
9. DJ SS/"Gold" (rmx)/Formation
10. Dream Team/"Public Enemy"/Joker test press

Reakt (Tha Purrin Lion Sound Flex Crew)

1. Genoforce/"Tech Jazz"/Renegade Hardware dubplate
2. Unknown/"Second"/Sinc dubplate
3. Genoforce/"Untitled"/Renegade Hardware dubplates
4. Unknown/"We Got the Streets/Sinc dubplate
5. Unknown/"Transmitting Live"/Sinc dubplate
6. DJ Hype/"Legalize"/Ganja Kru dubplate
7. Pascal/"Unknown"/Ganja Kru dubplate
8. DJ Red/"Dynamics"/TOV dubplate
9. Krust/"Warhead"/V-rec test press
10. John B. "Together" (rmx)/Renegade Hardware dubplate

Knuggs: LA BATON ROUGE

1. Tribe of Ischtaar/"Wardance"
2. Prisoners of Technology/Trick or Tech. (rmx)/Fresh Kult
3. Goldie/KRS-1
4. Tribe of Ischtaar/"Champion Natty"
5. Riddler/"Ain't no Way"
6. DJ Red/"Physical Jewls" (rmx)
7. Da Dogs/"Dog Style"
8. DJ Hype/"Tigerstyle" (krome & time rmx)
9. DJ Hype & Zinc/"Fugees or Not?"
10. DJ SS/"Gold"

DJ Freedom RAM Records

1. Shimon and Andy C./"Terraform"/Ram dubplate
2. Optical/"Moving 808's"/Prototype
3. Shimon and Andy C./"Mutation"/Ram dubplate
4. Krust/"Warhead"/V
5. Roni Size and Photek/"Brown Paper Bag"/Talkin' Loud (remixes)
6. Dillinja/"Light Years"/Prototype
7. Scorpia/"Trouble"/V
8. Level 3/"Contamination"/Liftin' Spirit
9. Swift/"The One"/Charge
10. Doc Scott (remix)/"Metropolis"/Positiva

DJ SNUGGLES (Strictly Jungle Chicago 89.3 FM)

1. 3D & Snuggles/Alternate Realities/plate
2. Jonny L /Piper [Grooverider Remix]/XL
3. 3D/Millennial Dawn/(plate)
4. Q System feat. DJ Swamp/3 Wheel Motion/Forte
5. Bill Laswell/Oscillations [Nico Remix]/Quantum
6. Eat Static/Interceptor[Decoder Remix]/Planet Dog
7. DJ Slak & DJ Wisc/Suffocation/Forte
8. Technical Itch - Hidden Sound/Moving Shadow
9. Genotype/Square Waves/Renegade Hardware
10. Concept 2/No Mistake/Ram/

Timestretch (E C P)

1. optical/moving 808s/[prototype]
2. suv/ free beat ep/[full cycle]
3. dj red/dynamics/[tov dub]
4. timestretch/absurd remix/[dub]
5. adam f/metropolis doc scott remix/[f jams]
6. the kraft/ feels good/[charge]
7. code of silence/kollaps/[dub]
8. pascal n phantasy/terradaktil future forces remix/[frontline]
9. swift/the one/[charge]
10. dom n matrix/the vandal/[moving shadow]

JUST DIGGIN'**DVS1 (Tha Purrin Lion Sound Flex Crew)**

*tunes to look for in old used record bins

1. Undercover Elephant & Secret Squirrel/Fresh Vegetables EP
2. Dj Seduction/"Ghetto People"(original mix)
3. Scott and Keith/"This is Deranged"(original mix)
4. Dj Phantasy & Gemini/"Ruff Beats"
5. Renegade/"Terrorist"(original mix)
6. Kemet Crew/"The Seed"
7. Summer Breeze/(Mickey Finn remix)/Beat Pirate Records
8. 4 Horseman of the Apocalypse/"Drowning in Her"/Tonedef
9. GBH/"Back From the Grave"
10. China White/"In & Out"

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dara Breakbeat Science

29

audio 3 Purrin Lion

bmc Tha Pride/Purrin Lion

sk Gotta Move Prodz.

97

zakaos Purrin Lion

marcus Sonic Boom



tekno arena:

Mr. Kleen Satellite Recs.

R
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Turbo Sonic Boom

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OK, start taking notes. The S3000, S3200, S3000XL, S3200XL, S2800, S2800i, and S2000 have -12db/oct resonant filters. They're all based around the same sound producing chip. The sound is great- they're the punchiest samplers being made today, in my opinion. Here's the rundown.

[new series]

S2000: Entry level. Small display, SCSI, but no individual outputs. Can be expanded using SIMMS, and can accept the Sampleverb and ProFilter expansion boards as well as whatever Akai calls their 8 output extension. No digital I/O. 2u rack

S3000XL: individual outs [8], SCSI, Digital I/O, can be expanded with SIMMS, can accept ProFilter and Sampleverb. What you're paying for here is the nice interface [Good ole S1000-style... more or less], the outputs, the digital I/O, and the ability to do some basic HD recording directly. Best price/performance ratio of the lot. 2u rack

S3200XL: top of the line. comes with everything the S3000XL does as well as full 32M ram, Sampleverb, and ProFilter stock. Adds SMPTE read/write and balanced XLR connectors for stereo in/out. 3u rack can accept optional [expensive] internal magneto-optical disk drive.

CD3000XL: basically a 3u S3000XL. I'm not up on this unit, but it comes with a CD-rom and 8M of ram, I think.

[older series]

S3200: Same as S3200XL, but with dated [and somewhat frustrating] OS.

S3000: Same as S3000XL, but in a 3u case. No Profilter card, and ram expansions are pricey. Not really a good choice. Does have some stock effects though.

S2800: 2u rack looks like an S3000XL. However, no SCSI, no digital I/O, pricey ram expansion, and only two individual outs.

S2800i: Not sure, but I think this is an S2800 with individual outs and a bit more ram.

S01: Complete hunk of crap.

So those are all the S-series samplers based on the same S3000 chip technology. Some argue that the older S1000 series samplers can sound more punchy, and I wouldn't be surprised if they do. The OS on the 1000 series isn't quite as nice [ok, it's a lot not quite as nice] as the newer series, and instead of having 32 voices, they only have 16. They're still very fine machines, though, especially the S1000.

At its most basic level, MESA allows graphic editing of every parameter in the new "S" Series samplers. The program comes with a variety of pre-configured control layouts so that you can be up and running immediately. MESA also includes a versatile Layout Editor that lets you design custom control layouts optimized for the exact way you work. However, MESA is much more than just a graphic editor. With MESA you can move sound files between multiple incompatible machines [e.g., an S2000 sampler, a digital recorder and a Macintosh] by translating the various custom audio file formats into the AIFF and SD2 standards. In this way, for example, a portion of a DR8 track could be translated and loaded into an S2000 where it could be edited using the S2000's sample editing tools, and then translated back to the DR8. [The DR8 MESA module coming sometime in the future.]

Computer Based Editing for the AKAI:

MESA also includes a File Manager for saving, organizing and accessing sound data on a variety of external storage devices and a graphic Wave Editor for editing sound data as well as recording data from an audio CD in the Mac's internal CD ROM drive. MESA is designed to be compatible with future Akai digital audio products. Its modular design makes it easy to update by simply adding a new product module to the appropriate folder.

While Akai samplers have long been known for their ease-of-operation, today, many people use their samplers in a Macintosh-based environment and have expressed a desire to control and program their samplers from the Macintosh screen. For those people, we have developed the Modular Editing System by Akai [MESA]. The MESA program is supplied free with the S2000, S3000XL, S3200XL and the CD3000XL.

Review by: Tom Butcher





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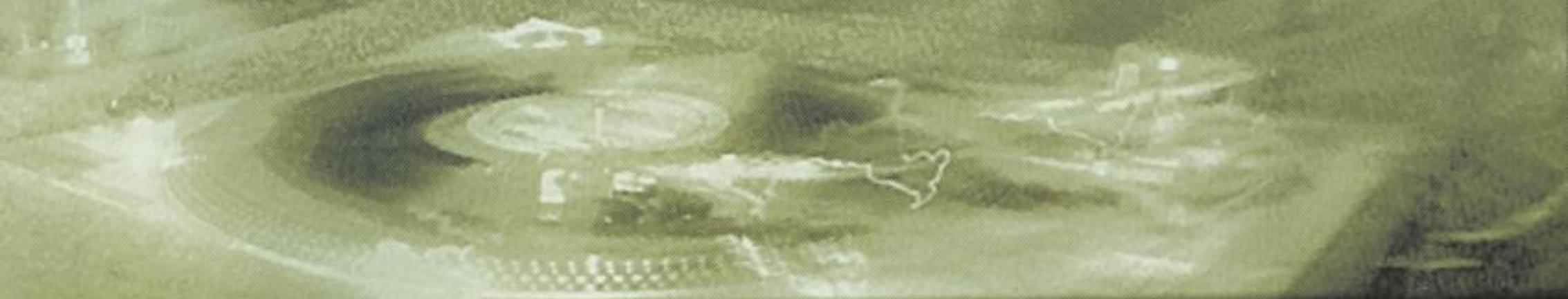
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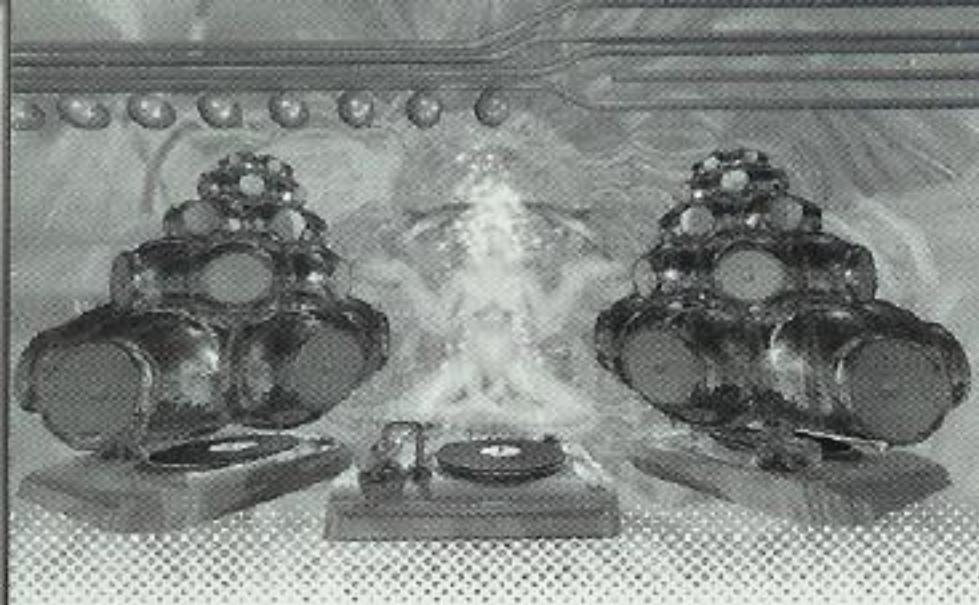
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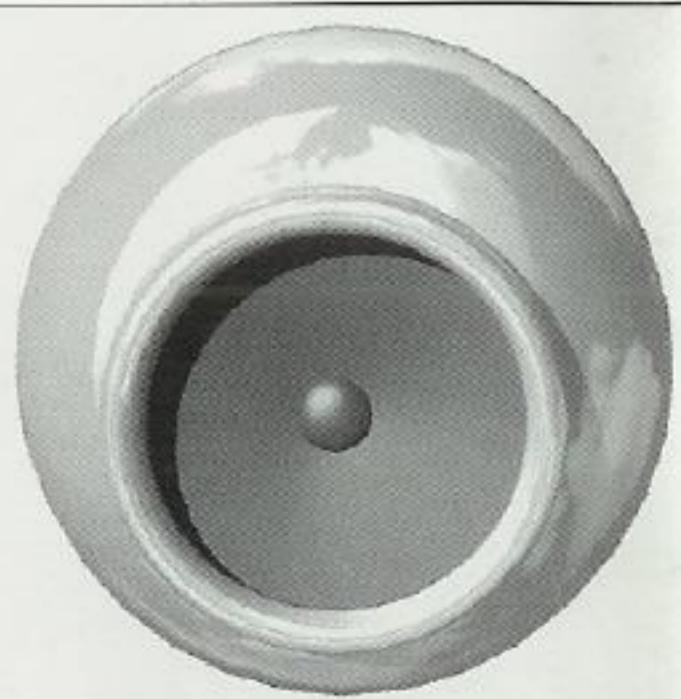
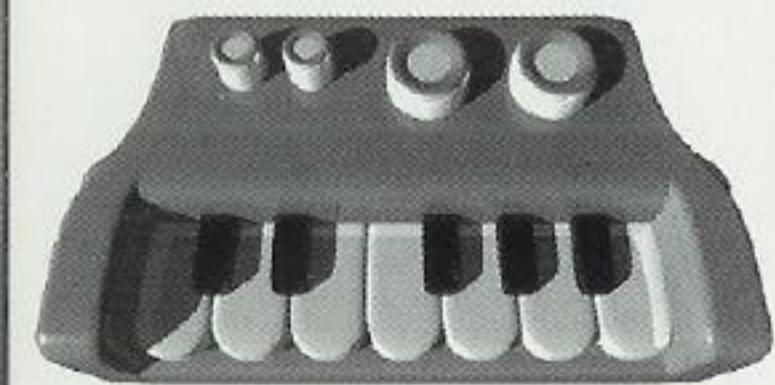
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